

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 SAB-01

DRC-01 IO-14 OIC-04 /227 W
----- 130290

O R 181226Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2039

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT ALGIERS

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSO LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 2376

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, OPEC, AU

SUBJECT: REMARKS OF OPEC INFORMATION CHIEF KUBBAH
ON OAPEC AND OPEC

REFS: (A) VIENNA 2358 (NOTAL)

(B) VIENNA 2359 (NOTAL)

(C) VIENNA 2374 (NOTAL)

1. DURING EMBOFF CALL TODAY ON ABDUL AMIER KUBBAH, ACTING HEAD OF OPEC INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, KUBBAH SAID THAT LIFTING OF EMBARGO WOULD BE ANNOUNCED AFTER OAPEC AFTERNOON SESSION TODAY. HE SAID THAT UAE'S MINISTER, MANA AL-OTAIBA, LEFT VIENNA FOR CAIRO AT MIDNIGHT WITH SADAT'S EMISSARY, ASHRAF MARWAN, IN SADAT'S PRIVATE PLANE. DURING EMBOFF VISIT KUBBAH EXPLAINED, PERHAPS JOKINGLY, ON TELEPHONE TO A NEWSMAN THAT AL-OTAIBA LEFT AT THAT EARLY HOUR BECAUSE HE WAS OFFERED A FREE RIDE. (MOHAMMED AL-RASHID OF ABU DHABI, MEMBER OF OPEC'S ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT, EARLIER HAD TOLD EMBOFF IN OPEC CORRIDOR THAT AL-OTAIBA HAD FLOWN WITH MARWAN AT 0300 HOURS TO CAIRO QUOTE TO SEE SADAT UNQUOTE.) EMBOFF ASKED KUBBAH WHY ANNOUNCEMENT ON LIFTING OF EMBARGO HAD NOT BEEN MADE LAST NIGHT, IF DECISION ALREADY MADE AND AL-OTAIBA HAD LEFT. KUBBAH SAID HE UNDERSTOOD DELAY WAS TO PERMIT SYRIAN DELEGATION TO RECEIVE ITS GOVERNMENT'S REACTION TO EMBARGO DECISION. KUBBAH SPOKE AS THOUGH IT WAS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER SYRIA WOULD GO ALONG WITH ENDING OF EMBARGO.

2. DURING EMBOFF'S VISIT IN KUBBAH'S OFFICE A NEWSPAPERMAN TELEPHONED HIM TO CLARIFY THE SECOND SENTENCE, SECOND PARA IN OPEC'S MARCH 17 PRESS RELEASE. (VIENNA'S 2358) KUBBAH SAID THE COMMUNIQUE COULD HAVE BEEN CLEARER BUT THAT IT WAS VERY CLEAR FROM AMOUZEGAR'S SUBSEQUENT REMARKS TO NEWSMEN THAT IT IS NOT RPT NOT OPEC'S INTENTION TO INCREASE PRICES DURING THE SECOND QUARTER. KUBBAH EXPLAINED THAT ANY MEMBER COULD CALL AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING TOWARD THE END OF THE SECOND QUARTER BUT THAT ANY CHANGE INTRODUCED WOULD NOT BE EFFECTIVE
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UNTIL THE THIRD QUARTER. HE ASSURED THE REPORTER THAT QUOTE AMOUZEGAR'S STATEMENT WAS SO FINAL AND DEFINITE IT LEAVES NO ROOM FOR DOUBT. UNQUOTE.

3. KUBBAH SAID THAT THE CONFERENCE JUST ENDED HAD DECIDED TO CHANGE THE DATE OF OPEC'S NEXT REGULAR MEETING IN QUITO FROM JUNE 10 TO JUNE 15. ONE ITEM ON AGENDA OF THE JUNE 15 MEETING WILL BE CONGO

(BRAZZAVILLE'S) APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP. THIS IS
THE ONLY PENDING MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, KUBBAH SAID.

4. EMBASSY REPORTING SEPTTEL NAMES OF MEMBERS OF
COUNTRY DELEGATIONS TO OPEC CONFERENCE AS WELL AS LIST
OF DELEGATES TO RECENT ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETINGS. TRINKA

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30 JUN 2005

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